

REMARKS

Claims 2 through 4, 7 through 11 and 16 were presented for examination in the present application. Claims 7 and 9 have been allowed. Claims 8, 10 and 11 which depend from allowed claim 7 will be rejoined at issuance. Thus, claims 2 through 4, 7 through 11 and 16 are pending upon entry of the instant amendment, which is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over U.S. Patent No. 5,816,126 ("Pluber") in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,451,297 ("Reis"). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Pluber in view of Reis, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,806,394 ("Marocco").

Amended claim 2 requires "a movement transmission device for moving said cutting die along a cutting die movement path and for moving said blind cutting device along a blind cutting device movement path, whereby both the vertical blind materials and the headrail are cut, wherein said cutting die and said blind cutting device are moved substantially simultaneously, wherein said blind cutting device movement path is substantially greater in length than said cutting die movement path (emphasis added)".

Pluber discloses a cutter wherein "the sliding support member 22 is fitted with a first blade 50, a second blade 52 and a third blade 54, attached to the support member 22 by bolts 56 and 58". See col. 3, lines 28-31. Therefore, Pluber discloses a plurality of cutters that move along defined paths of equal lengths since the cutters are attached to support member 22.

It is clear, therefore, that Pluber does not disclose or suggest "a movement transmission device for moving [a] cutting die...and a blind cutting device... wherein the blind cutting device movement path is substantially greater than in length than [the] cutting die movement path" as required by claim 2.

Reis discloses a shearing device having "a pair of separately operating kicker cam plates 13 and 14; the plate 13 cooperating with the lower die block 11 and the upper kicker cam plate 14 cooperating with the cam formation on the upper die block 12". See col. 2, lines 44 - 48.

Thus, Reis discloses the use of two devices in order to move the two die blocks. Clearly, Reis does not disclose or suggest "a movement transmission device for moving said cutting die along a cutting die movement path and for moving said blind cutting device" as required by claim 2.

Finally, Marocco discloses an apparatus for trimming the width of blinds wherein the "movement of the die plate 30 between one position and another position...will produce cutting or trimming of the ends of both the headrail and the bottom rail". See col. 5, lines 44 - 49. Marocco further discloses "a blade mounting frame 60..." wherein "a blade 68 is mounted on the frame 60" and "movement of the blade 68 will shear the ends of the slats". See col. 6, line 58 - col. 7, line 1.

Thus, it is clear that Marocco discloses the use of at least two separate and distinct devices in order to cut the head rail and the slats. This is contrary to claim 2 which, as stated previously, requires "a movement transmission device for moving

said cutting die ... and for moving said blind cutting device ... whereby both the vertical blind materials and the headrail are cut". Thus, Marocco does not disclose or suggest the movement transmission device recited by claim 2.

Thus, neither Pluber, Reis, or Marocco disclose or suggest the movement transmission device recited in claim 2. Therefore, the combination of Pluber, Reis, and Marocco cannot disclose or suggest the movement transmission device recited in claim 2.

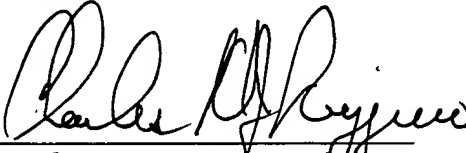
As such, claim 2 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 3, 4, and 16 depend from independent claim 2 and are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the reasons given above for claim 2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to claims 2 through 4 and 16 are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Such action is solicited. In the alternative, it is believed that the instant amendment places the present application in better condition for appeal. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the instant amendment are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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